



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Application of **Barker et al**

Application No. 09/837,539

Attorney Docket No. 1032-P02148US1

Filed: April 18, 2001

For: Medical Device with Shield Having a
Retractable Needle

Examiner: Marmor II, Charles

Group Art Unit: 3736

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2 and 5.

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MAY 04 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER BOSTON

1. (Previously Amended) A medical device, comprising:
 - a hollow housing;
 - a needle having a sharpened tip projecting forwardly from the housing;
 - a biasing element biasing the needle rearwardly;
 - a needle retainer releasably retaining the needle against the rearward bias of the biasing element;
 - a flexible shield fixedly attached to the housing, projecting forwardly from the housing;
 - the shield having a forward edge and being configured for insertion into a patient;
 - the shield sheathing the needle such that in a projecting position, the sharpened tip of the needle projects beyond the forward edge of the shield, and in a retracted position the sharpened tip is enclosed within the shield;